

Exhibit 67

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE MIDDLE DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
CIVIL ACTION NO. 1:14-CV-00954-LCB-JLW

STUDENTS FOR FAIR
ADMISSIONS, INC.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH
CAROLINA, et al.,

Defendants.

AMENDED DEPOSITION
OF
CHRISTOPHER FAISON

THIS DEPOSITION CONTAINS CONFIDENTIAL AND PROPRIETARY
INFORMATION AND IS SUBJECT TO A PROTECTIVE ORDER
RESTRICTING PUBLIC DISCLOSURE OF ITS CONTENTS

TAKEN AT THE OFFICES OF:
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL
222 East Cameron Avenue
110 Bynum Hall
Chapel Hill, NC 27514

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8:58 A.M.

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1 relative to other populations on campus, the
2 American Indian presence or cul -- their cultural
3 presence is -- is very real here.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. So it's -- it's good to, I think, think
6 about how groups show up in places and also how
7 communities such as our campus choose to lift up
8 or illuminate those groups as well with respect to
9 critical mass.

10 Q. So first, let me just say when we talk
11 about critical mass, I want you to use your
12 definition of critical mass, just to make sure
13 we're not get -- we don't get caught up with what
14 some student thinks of critical mass ---

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. --- like that. That will make it easier
17 for you and me to communicate with each other.

18 A. Sure.

19 Q. So, it sounds like you're saying that
20 the number of students -- again this example of
21 American Indian students on campus -- the number
22 of students has some relation to critical mass.

23 A. It does have some relation. Yes.

24 Q. And would you say there are other
25 factors that bear on critical mass?

1 A. Certainly.

2 Q. Could you tell me what some of those
3 are?

4 A. So can it -- like, with -- outstanding
5 of number.

6 Q. Uh-huh (yes).

7 A. Representation among administrators,
8 faculty and staff, it's helpful with the -- within
9 that -- within its frame. Visibility of issues or
10 individuals helps with respect to critical mass.
11 And then priorities within agendas also speak to
12 critical mass in my opinion.

13 Q. So, let me see if I can try to capture
14 what you're saying. So, for any particular, let's
15 say racial group for now. Oh, I suppose -- I
16 think your definition may apply to other
17 dimensions of people's identities as well.

18 A. Certainly.

19 Q. That's what it sounds like. Okay. But
20 we'll just stick with racial identity for right
21 now. So, in terms of racial identity, for -- for
22 a particular racial group, if that racial group is
23 -- has a lot of representation amongst the faculty
24 and staff at UNC, critical mass might be a lower
25 number of students of that ethnic group than it

1 would otherwise be.

2 A. That's possible.

3 Q. So if -- and I don't -- I'm not going to
4 -- just for an example, let's say there's X number
5 of Hispanic students on campus, all right? And I
6 don't know, one-tenth of the faculty is Hispanic,
7 okay? If -- in the way you conceive of critical
8 mass, X number of students -- X number of Hispanic
9 students might not be critical mass if 10 percent
10 of the faculty is Hispanic. But X percent of the
11 students might be critical mass if 20 percent of
12 the faculty is Hispanic. That would be possible,
13 right?

14 A. It's -- it's possible, but as I -- as I
15 brought out the other pieces of how I define
16 critical mass, I would say that a Y, like a Y co-
17 efficient in that formula would be visibility.

18 Q. Sure. And to be clear, I'm not trying
19 to eliminate all other factors.

20 A. Okay.

21 Q. It's just the only two are number of
22 faculty members ---

23 A. Right.

24 Q. --- and number of students. But all
25 other things, you know, keeping in mind that other

1 factors may be present, those two things would be
2 possible in the way you conceive of critical mass.

3 A. And even within that, within let's say,
4 an X number depending upon who -- like,
5 positionally, where those people are ---

6 Q. Sure. So if the --

7 A. --- impacts. So, for instance ---

8 Q. If the chancellor was Hispanic, right?

9 A. Then that may -- I'm not going to say
10 what the ratio would be or what the ---

11 Q. Sure.

12 A. --- but it -- it then, again begins to
13 make numbers more complicated.

14 Q. Yes. So, I understand. I'm not going
15 to try to hold you to a particular number, but all
16 other things being equal, a higher representation
17 of an ethnic group in the faculty and
18 administration and at higher levels of the faculty
19 and administration would mean relatively speaking
20 that would compensate for a lower level of number
21 of students on campus of that ethnic group.

22 A. I don't agree with that.

23 Q. Okay, no? I thought that was what we
24 were saying a minute ago.

25 A. I was saying that they form each other,

1 but I don't necessarily think that that ---

2 Q. I'm not trying -- okay. So I'm not kind
3 of saying necessarily in any given case ---

4 A. Right.

5 Q. --- but -- okay. So let's say that
6 using these three factors we're discussing, and
7 I'm not excluding that there might be possibility
8 of more ---

9 A. Right.

10 Q. --- okay? But for right now the factors
11 we've been discussing are number of students in
12 that ethnic group, number of faculty and staff of
13 that eth -- ethnic group and visibility, seniority
14 among the faculty and staff of that ethnic group,
15 right?

16 Whatever those three factors are at,
17 let's just say hypothetically speaking we're at
18 critical mass, okay? You think, okay, at some
19 factor for those things, we're at critical mass.
20 Then theoretically speaking, if one of those
21 factors went down, that theoretically could be
22 made up for by one of the other factors going up
23 and you might still be at critical mass.

24 A. Potentially, yes.

25 Q. That's what I'm trying to figure out.

1 Okay. So they all sort of work together and they
2 all have some bearing on critical mass for any
3 particular ethnic group.

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. You made reference before when we
6 were talking about this just a few minutes ago
7 about -- and I don't -- I'm not trying to state it
8 exactly, but about how that group shows up. You
9 said something like that?

10 A. Uh-huh (yes). Yes.

11 Q. Were you referring to sort of how vocal
12 or active that the group is within the campus
13 community? Is that -- was that -- that was meant
14 in reference?

15 A. No, it's more about -- so, with -- with
16 respect to, if we're going to focus on race and
17 ethnicity for -- for now, it's with respect to the
18 way that someone presents themselves.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. So, for instance, with let's say Latinx
21 folks. If someone is -- they have a -- a certain
22 look about themselves that suggests that they have
23 Latino heritage, then that's one example.

24 Q. Okay.

25 A. Whereas there can be a Latinx student

1 who is white passing, and doesn't appear to be
2 Latino, then that's another example. So that's
3 what I meant by the ways in which people show up.

4 Q. Okay.

5 A. But ---

6 Q. They way they exhibit characteristics
7 that ---

8 A. And the way they ---

9 Q. --- typically identify with that racial
10 group?

11 A. Yes. Or also where -- how are -- how
12 are they in their racial identity development,
13 because although you may check a box that says
14 that you are X, does not mean that you're all on
15 the same level of racial identity. That's the
16 example you mention of the protest. So just
17 because you're a Latino student does not mean that
18 you will all go out and protest for Latino issues.

19 Q. Sure.

20 A. So that's the other variance when it
21 comes to the notion of critical mass.

22 Q. Okay.

23 A. And also with respect to the campus
24 climate that we were talking about earlier, you
25 can have allies -- which we love to use that

1 phrase nowadays -- where you don't have to
2 necessarily be a part of that group, but you may
3 be a champion of the issues. So that can also
4 impact the definition I use for critical mass.

5 Q. Okay. So in other words -- and we'll
6 just keep it in racial group for now because
7 that's what we're talking about right now. If
8 let's say there -- the campus climate involves
9 some controversy that relates to some political
10 goings on around the world and with respect to
11 that issue, Asian students and Hispanic students
12 identify with each other, then that may affect
13 what is critical mass for Asian students and
14 Hispanic students at that given moment in time
15 because they are allies and champions for each
16 other in some outward respect on campus. Is that
17 right?

18 A. Yes, it could.

19 Q. Okay.

20 A. Uh-huh (yes).

21 Q. So then am I correct that in the meaning
22 that you ascribe to critical mass, critical mass
23 can be different for each and every racial group
24 on campus?

25 A. Potentially, and at different -- at

1 different points in time ---

2 Q. Right. Right.

3 A. --- given the -- given the population of
4 the students at the time.

5 Q. And the climate?

6 A. Right.

7 Q. And the presence of those groups in the
8 faculty and administration, how senior and visible
9 they are and all those things we just discussed,
10 correct?

11 A. And then the other piece would be back
12 to the intersectional identity piece. If a
13 certain percentage of students happened to be --
14 let's say -- let's say Asian students have --
15 there happen to be a large number who are not
16 citizens, then depending upon the context of the
17 situation or of the campus, Asian students that
18 are not citizens may have a certain focus with
19 respect to critical mass as opposed to residents
20 that are at the campus.

21 So you -- so even if you -- you may have
22 -- when we try to make nice and neat boxes with
23 respect to race and ethnicity, Asian and Asian-
24 American are often very different.

25 Q. Sure.

1 A. So, it's important to understand that
2 when we're trying to look at the educational
3 benefits of diversity that it's not as simple as
4 what -- and to the credit of the University of
5 allowing students who choose more than one race or
6 ethnicity in 2010 has been helpful, but it also
7 provides somewhat of a quagmire when you try to
8 compare that data to data prior to that whenever
9 we didn't give students that ability. So it just
10 makes it for kind of a -- a fun situation when
11 you're trying to compare things over time.

12 Q. So, is it -- well, I think the sum of
13 what I'm hearing is that critical mass is not as
14 simple as the government labels for racial and
15 ethnic groups. Right?

16 A. Certainly.

17 Q. So -- and this -- I think this touches
18 on a point you made earlier about how within
19 Hispanic students, for example, Mexican-American
20 students make up a large portion of the Hispanic
21 students at University of North Carolina. But
22 there are many other kinds of Hispanic students
23 both at University of North Carolina and
24 otherwise, and so that bears on critical mass,
25 too.

1 A. It does.

2 Q. Just in the manner of the different sort
3 of segments of the Asian population that might be
4 on the campus, as you mentioned a minute ago.
5 Correct?

6 A. Correct, and that's evidenced by the
7 student groups that we have. Almost every Asian
8 group that I'm aware of has its own student
9 association. So that speaks to the notion of the
10 complexity of critical mass as well as even with
11 the -- the Hispanic versus Latino debate.

12 Students have taught me that while
13 Hispanic may be the official census term or
14 whatever, a lot of the students and folks kind of
15 refer to themselves as Latino or Latinx now
16 because it's gender neutral because that was not
17 the label that the government placed on them. So
18 I have to be intentional about thinking about how
19 I even -- how I even name students because I could
20 lose them by calling them what the government
21 calls them as opposed to how they call themselves.

22 Q. Okay. So would you say there is a
23 critical mass of under-represented minority
24 students at UNC-Chapel Hill currently?

25 A. It's hard to define that for me right